August 3, 2006 Morning Highlights 2006-40 Contact: Maggie Rogers, BLM AFS, 356-5511

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Two Interagency Type 2 fire crews have been sent outside of Alaska. Their mobilization was initiated by the USDA Forest Service to provide Interagency personnel, who did not have the opportunity this summer to support fires in Alaska, the chance to go to the Lower-48 to help meet the national demand for firefighters and to build on their training. Not only is it the agencies' desire to support the national wildland fire community and gain additional experience, it is equally important that these Interagency Crews exist to promote team-building and foster the existing working partnerships between agencies within the Alaska. Please read the full news release at: <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/nonfire/current.pdf">http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/nonfire/current.pdf</a>
- Initial attack was light nationally with 111 new fires reported. There is a lull in the demand for Type 2 (Emergency Fire Fighter) crews at this time. For information about crew rotation visit: <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov/logdisp/crews.php">http://fire.ak.blm.gov/logdisp/crews.php</a>, or for the National Situation Report: <a href="http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf">http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf</a>.
- Two new small fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center (AICC) Wednesday, one from the Kenai Area, one from the Fairbanks Area; both are contained. Currently 19 fires are active in Alaska, none are staffed. AICC reports that so far this year 274 fires have burned nearly 269,415 acres statewide.
- Red Flag Warnings (RFW) are in effect today for strong winds in the 1)
  Tanana River Flats from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and 2) The northeastern slopes of the eastern Alaska Range from now until 5:00 p.m. RFWs mean that conditions are occurring or will occur which could lead to the development of large, dangerous wildfires. For more information, visit: <a href="http://firewx.arh.noaa.gov/warnings.php">http://firewx.arh.noaa.gov/warnings.php</a>

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov">http://fire.ak.blm.gov</a>
  - Map of Current Fires: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
  - o Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
- National Fire Situation: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <a href="http://511.alaska.gov">http://511.alaska.gov</a>
- Division of Forestry, Burn Permit Info: (907) 451-2626, http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/fire/
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm
- National Parks Service: <a href="www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm">www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm</a>
- National Weather Service: <a href="http://www.nws.noaa.gov/">http://www.nws.noaa.gov/</a>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/fire/">http://www.fws.gov/fire/</a>
- USDA Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc
- Federal Aviation Administration: <a href="http://www.faa.gov">http://www.faa.gov</a>

The Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service provides wildland fire suppression services for all Department of the Interior and Native Corporation lands in Alaska, and assists those entities with other fire management activities including: guidance and interpretation of fire policy for BLM Alaska and management of the BLM Alaska aviation program. In addition to fire suppression missions, AFS also conducts prescribed fires in accordance with various partner agreements.